

LAST MINUTE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 8, 2004

TO: MEMBERS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: William J. Ellerbee, Jr., Deputy Superintendent
School and District Operations Branch

RE: Item No. 42

SUBJECT: Request by the Academy of Culture and Technology for an Extension of Time to Meet State Board of Education Condition Related to SELPA Membership

The Academy of Culture and Technology (ACT) petitioners requested a 60-day extension of time in which to meet the first part of the State Board condition #3, which requires the petitioners to submit written verification that they have applied to join a SELPA or have applied to the Pomona Unified School District to be considered a school of the district for special education purposes.

CDE oversight staff requested the petitioners to provide the following additional information in support of their request: (1) when petitioners expect to submit an application to the SELPA; (2) what SELPA deadlines, if any, exist for submission of applications; (3) what requirements the school must meet in order to be accepted into the SELPA; and (4) approximately how long the SELPA approval process is expected to take.

The ACT petitioners have provided some information indicating that they have been in contact with the East San Gabriel Valley SELPA director who has indicated that the school must submit an application to join the SELPA by February 2005 if the school intends to open in the fall of 2005. The ACT petitioners are now requesting that the deadline to meet the first part of condition #3 be extended to February 2005.

We recommend the petitioners be given a 60-day extension of time from the date of State Board approval of this item in which to submit evidence that the school has submitted an application to join a SELPA. We recommend a new deadline of May 10, 2004. The new date is in keeping with ACT's original request for a 60-day extension.